

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCTINTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 3801P093PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/US2004/020075	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 21 June 2004 (21.06.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 June 2003 (25.06.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant EBAY INC.			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis (1a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2).

Date of issuance of this report 03 January 2006 (03.01.2006)	
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Faxsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35	Authorized officer Ellen Moyse Telephone No. +41 22 338 89 75

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To
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 POST OFFICE BOX 2938
 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

REC'D 02 SEP 2005

PCT

PO

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

31 AUG 2005

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

Applicant's or agent's file reference

3801P003PCT

International application No.

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year)

PCT/US04/20025

21 June 2004 (21.06.2004)

23 June 2003 (25.06.2003)

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

IPC(7): G06F 17/60 and US CI : 705/27

Applicant

EBAY, INC.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasons statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for International preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 55.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, whence appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further opinion, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
 Mail to PCT, Attn: ISA/US
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
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Authorized officer

Gerald J. O'Connor

Telephone No. None

W/ope Jr

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/US94/20075

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 contained in international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US04/20075

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.I(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-25</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-25</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>J-23</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-25 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Bailey et al. Bailey et al. disclose a system to rank search terms used in a network-based commerce system including a plurality of listings arranged in divisions, the system including: a frequently used search term retrieval module to retrieve frequently used search terms from a first memory location of the network-based commerce system; a determination module to determine a number of listings in each division associated with each frequently used search term; and, a ranking module to rank each frequently used search term based on the number of listings in each division (see, in particular, Figure 15E and § 124).

Claims 1-25 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.